

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method of creating a virtual memory space in a memory, said method comprising:
 - determining whether additional memory space is needed in said memory;
 - if additional memory space is needed, compressing selected portions of memory content stored in said memory; and
 - releasing memory space which is no longer needed by said compressed selected portions of memory content for use as virtual memory space;

wherein a plurality of fixed compression tables are defined for realizing said compression, each fixed compression table associating possible values of memory content to values of a compression code, said method further comprising associating to a respective portion of memory content the fixed compression table resulting in the highest compression when applied to this portion of memory content.
2. (canceled)
3. (currently amended) The method according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein said fixed compression tables are predetermined.
4. (currently amended) The method according to claim [[2]]1, wherein said fixed compression tables are generated at an initialization of said memory based on available portions of memory content.

5. (original) The method according to claim 4, wherein said fixed compression tables are updated at regular intervals based on available portions of memory content.
6. (currently amended) The method according to claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, wherein in addition to said fixed compression tables, a null-table is provided which can equally be associated to a respective portion of memory content and which causes that no modification is applied to a selected portion of memory content to which said null-table is associated.
7. (currently amended) The method according to claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, wherein in addition to said fixed compression tables, an own-compression-table is provided which can equally be associated to a respective portion of memory content and which indicates that a portion of memory content to which it is associated has its own compression algorithm co-located and that this own compression algorithm is to be used for a compression of said portion of memory content when selected.
8. (currently amended) The method according to claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, wherein a fixed compression table is associated to a respective portion of memory content when said portion of memory content is written into said memory.
9. (currently amended) The method according to claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, wherein a fixed compression table is selected for association to a particular portion of memory content based on samples of said particular portion of memory content.
10. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein portions of memory content are selected for compression which belong to a currently inactive process.

11. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein different priorities are assigned to different portions of memory content, and wherein those portions of memory content are selected for compression to which the lowest priority has been assigned among all uncompressed portions of memory content.
12. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising monitoring whether sufficient memory space is available in said memory and decompressing compressed portions of memory content of said memory as soon as sufficient memory space is available in said memory.
13. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising decompressing a compressed portion of memory content of said memory as soon as a process to which said compressed portion of memory content belongs becomes active.
14. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising when reporting to an application the status of the memory, reporting a status which would be given in case of a completely decompressed memory content.
15. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said memory is an executable memory, to which said portions of memory content are provided by a solid-state memory based on demand paging.
16. (currently amended) ~~A memory manager for controlling a memory, said memory manager~~ An apparatus comprising:
 - a monitoring component monitoring whether additional memory space is needed in ~~[[said]]~~ a memory; and
 - a compression component compressing selected portions of memory content stored in said memory, in case said monitoring component determines that additional memory space is needed, and releasing memory space which is no

longer needed by said compressed selected portions of memory content for use as virtual memory space, wherein a plurality of fixed compression tables are defined for realizing said compression, each fixed compression table associating possible values of memory content to values of a compression code, said compression component being further adapted to associate to a respective portion of memory content the fixed compression table resulting in the highest compression when applied to this portion of memory content.

17. (currently amended) A system comprising:
 - a memory; and
 - a memory manager monitoring whether additional memory space is needed in said memory, compressing selected portions of memory content stored in said memory, in case it is determined that additional memory space is needed, and releasing memory space which is no longer needed by said compressed selected portions of memory content for use as virtual memory space, wherein a plurality of fixed compression tables are defined for realizing said compression, each fixed compression table associating possible values of memory content to values of a compression code, said memory manager being further adapted to associate to a respective portion of memory content the fixed compression table resulting in the highest compression when applied to this portion of memory content.
18. (currently amended) A software program product in which a software code for creating virtual memory space in a memory is stored, said software code realizing the following steps when running in a memory manager controlling said memory:
 - determining whether additional memory space is needed in said memory;
 - if additional memory space is needed, compressing selected portions of memory content stored in said memory; and
 - releasing memory space which is no longer needed by said compressed selected

portions of memory content for use as virtual memory space;

wherein a plurality of fixed compression tables are defined for realizing said compression, each fixed compression table associating possible values of memory content to values of a compression code, said software code further realizing the step of associating to a respective portion of memory content the fixed compression table resulting in the highest compression when applied to this portion of memory content.

19. (new) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein said fixed compression tables are predetermined.
20. (new) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein said fixed compression tables are generated at an initialization of said memory based on available portions of memory content.
21. (new) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein in addition to said fixed compression tables, a null-table is provided which can equally be associated to a respective portion of memory content and which causes that no modification is applied to a selected portion of memory content to which said null-table is associated.
22. (new) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein in addition to said fixed compression tables, an own-compression-table is provided which can equally be associated to a respective portion of memory content and which indicates that a portion of memory content to which it is associated has its own compression algorithm co-located and that this own compression algorithm is to be used for a compression of said portion of memory content when selected.

23. (new) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein a fixed compression table is associated to a respective portion of memory content when said portion of memory content is written into said memory.
24. (new) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein different priorities are assigned to different portions of memory content, and wherein said compression component is configured to select for compression those portions of memory content to which the lowest priority has been assigned among all uncompressed portions of memory content.
25. (new) The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising a decompression component configured to decompress a compressed portion of memory content of said memory as soon as a process to which said compressed portion of memory content belongs becomes active.
26. (new) An apparatus comprising:
 - means for monitoring whether additional memory space is needed in a memory; and
 - means for compressing selected portions of memory content stored in said memory, in case said monitoring component determines that additional memory space is needed, and for releasing memory space which is no longer needed by said compressed selected portions of memory content for use as virtual memory space, wherein a plurality of fixed compression tables are defined for realizing said compression, each fixed compression table associating possible values of memory content to values of a compression code, wherein said means for compressing is further for associating to a respective portion of memory content the fixed compression table resulting in the highest compression when applied to this portion of memory content.

27. (new) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein said fixed compression tables are predetermined.